1	2	3
31. Lakshadweep	7.9	1.7
32. Pondicherry	135.5	78.7
TOTAL:	36275.5	23666.4

NOTE:—1.*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
3. P Provisional.

India's export share in International Market

*114. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's share of exports in international market is very low at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of its actual share; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) India's share in world exports during 1993 is 0.58% as per available data regarding world trade. Initially India's economic policies were greared towards import substitution. It is since 1991 that India has decided to accelerate the country's transition to an internationally oriented economy.

(c) Recognising that international trade is a key component of global economic activity today, the Government have taken a number of steps to encourage and maintain strong export growth. India's trade policy was liberalised in July' 91 to respond to the opportunities and challenges posed by the domestic and international developments. The trade policy has aimed at creating a free environment for trade, strengthening the export promotion structure, removing procedural irritants through simplification and streamlining of procedures, increasing export production, improving efficiency and sharpening competitive edge, facilitating input availability, focussing on quality and technological upgradation besides introducing and strengthening schemes for export promotion. Efforts have been made to provide cheaper export credits and provide tax exemption on export profits Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and concerned institutions.

Meeting of SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation

*115. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 6th meeting of the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC) under the Chairmanship of Indian Commerce Secretary was held in New Delhi recently as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 17.11.95; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps were taken by the SAARC body to promote trade and economic cooperation amongst SAARC countries?